



# House of Representatives

General Assembly

**File No. 465**

*January Session, 2001*

Substitute House Bill No. 5120

*House of Representatives, April 25, 2001*

The Committee on Government Administration and Elections reported through REP. KNOPP of the 137th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

## **AN ACT CONCERNING ON-LINE VOTER REGISTRATION.**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1       Section 1. (NEW) The Secretary of the State shall adopt regulations,  
2       in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54 of the general statutes,  
3       to enable any person to apply by electronic mail to a registrar of voters  
4       of the town of the person's residence for admission as an elector. The  
5       regulations shall include provisions concerning (1) the structure and  
6       content of the application form, which shall include spaces for the  
7       information that an applicant is required to provide under section 9-  
8       23h of the general statutes, (2) procedures to allow such applications to  
9       be signed with electronic signatures, consistent with sections 1-260, 1-  
10      261, 1-262, 1-263 and 1-264 of the general statutes and the federal  
11      Uniform Electronic Transactions Act, and (3) procedures for (A) the  
12      review of such applications by registrars of voters, (B) notification to  
13      applicants of the receipt of such applications and the action taken by  
14      the registrars on the applications, and (C) the attachment of the

15 privileges of an elector for applicants whose applications are so  
16 approved.

17 Sec. 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2002.

**GAE**      *Joint Favorable Subst.*

The following fiscal impact statement and bill analysis are prepared for the benefit of members of the General Assembly, solely for the purpose of information, summarization, and explanation, and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either House thereof for any purpose:

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**OFA Fiscal Note**

**State Impact:** None

**Affected Agencies:** Office of the Secretary of the State

**Municipal Impact:** Potential Cost

**Explanation****State Impact:**

The bill requires the Secretary of the State to adopt regulations specifying the procedures for applicants and election officials to follow for voter registration applications sent by electronic mail, which will result in no fiscal impact to the state.

**Municipal Impact:**

Permitting applicants to register to vote by electronic mail may result in a cost to some municipalities that do not have electronic mail and would need to obtain a computer and electronic mail connectivity. All towns participating in the centralized voter registration system have electronic mail. Only 30 towns are not currently on the system, it is uncertain how many of these towns do not have access to electronic mail and thus would incur costs.

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**OLR Bill Analysis**

sHB 5120

***AN ACT CONCERNING ON-LINE VOTER REGISTRATION.***

**SUMMARY:**

This bill requires the secretary of the state to adopt regulations establishing procedures for applicants and registrars of voters to follow for voter registration applications sent by electronic mail. The regulations must include provisions covering the following:

1. the format and content of the application form, which must include spaces for all the information included on the current so-called mail-in form;
2. allowance for electronic signatures that comply with state and federal electronic transaction laws;
3. the registrars of voters' review;
4. notification of receipt and acceptance or rejection of applications; and
5. the time when an approved applicant's voting privileges begin.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2002

**COMMITTEE ACTION**

Government Administration and Elections Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 20      Nay 0